

I. BACKGROUND

Section 2515 of title 10, United States Code (Appendix A) - directs that "The Secretary of Defense shall establish within the Office of the Secretary of Defense an Office of Technology Transition." It further directs that the head of the office will ensure that the office will monitor research and development (R&D) activities of the Department of Defense; identify R&D activities that result in technological advances that have potential for nondefense commercial applications; serve as a clearinghouse for, coordinate, and actively facilitate the transfer of such technologies and technological advancements to the private sector; conduct its activities in consultation and coordination with the Department of Energy and the Department of Commerce; and provide private firms with assistance in resolving problems related to technology transfer. It also directs the Secretary of Defense to submit to the Committees on Armed Services, and Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives an annual report on the activities of the Office at the same time the budget is submitted to Congress by the President. This report responds to that requirement and is the seventh annual report.

On April 30, 1999, Dr. Lance A. Davis resigned as Deputy Director for Defense Research and Engineering (Laboratory Management/Technology Transition) at which time Mr. John B. Todaro assumed his responsibilities as Director, Office of Technology Transition.

In FY 98, the Defense Technical Information Center was moved into the Defense Information Systems Agency for management, support, and overall guidance. However, as the repository of DoD S&T information, it continues to support technology transfer functions through maintenance of websites, databases, information analysis centers, and other sources of technical information. It is anticipated this support will continue to assist in monitoring R&D activities and facilitating the transfer of technology.

In keeping with the integrated planning and process team concept throughout the Department, the activities of the Office are conducted with the consultation, support, and active participation of personnel in the Military Departments and Defense Agencies.